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August 17, 2018

Thank you for subscribing to my e-newsletter.

It has been a busy week for education in the State of Texas!

On Tuesday, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) announced that it has been awarded more than \$174 million in new federal assistance under the Temporary Emergency Impact Aid for Displaced Students program (Emergency Impact Aid). The federal funding will assist Texas school districts with the cost of educating students displaced by Hurricane Harvey during the 2017-2018 school year. You can read more about these funds below or at this link.

The next day, TEA released the district and campus accountability ratings. Commissioner Morath commended the work taking place in high-performing school districts statewide. Under the 2018 A-F state accountability system, 153 school districts and district charters achieved an A rating. "Achieving an A rating reflects the hard work and commitment of everyone within a school district, starting with our classroom teachers. We should all celebrate the outstanding work of these dedicated educators," said Commissioner Morath. "Districts with high levels of poverty who attain this high level of performance are proof positive that poverty is not destiny. With strong instruction and curriculum, all students can succeed." Information on the ratings is shown below or can be viewed at <a href="https://www.txschools.org">www.txschools.org</a>.

Also this week, classes began for many districts across the State and will begin for Humble ISD on Monday. In preparation for this, the District issued their annual Your Schools Newsletter, which is featured below. This will be the 100th Anniversary of Humble ISD and accordingly, they have planned a Centennial Celebration on Saturday, August 25th, which you can read about also. The Humble ISD Education Foundation featured a story on the Ryan J. Huberty Fund in their newsletter this week titled "Overcoming Dyslexia" and we have included that below, as well. Check out how you can get involved in supporting dyslexia education in the District through this fund, named for my son.

I want to remind you about Early Voting, which is occurring right now, for the August 25th Harris County Flood Control District Bond Election. The dates, hours and locations for Early Voting are available online at <a href="https://www.HarrisVotes.com">www.HarrisVotes.com</a>, but are also included in our downloadable calendar below. Election Day information will also be available on the same site. Please remember to get out and vote in this important election.

Lastly, the most recent update from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on the Dredging Project at the West Fork of the San Jacinto River is included below. You may have seen activity by the contractor as they prepare to start the removal of sediment and debris left in the river basin after Hurricane Harvey. This much needed emergency project is vital in the prevention of future flooding in our area.

Should you have questions regarding anything in this newsletter, please feel free to contact us directly using the information provided at the bottom of this email.

Have a great weekend!

Sincerely,







## August 2018 Calendar

Download my August 2018 calendar by clicking the link below. This month is full of events in and around Texas that could fun or useful to you and your family! This new format allows you to save the document for printing or sending to your family members.



#### Click Here to View and Download This Month's Calendar!

# **Hurricane Harvey Updates**

# UPDATE: San Jacinto River Emergency Dredging Project

#### West Fork of the San Jacinto River Emergency Dredging

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Current Status: USACE Galveston District as tasked by FEMA, awarded a contract on Friday 6 July

800 E 100	Solicitation Phase	25 0
Activity/Milestones	Scheduled	Current
Advertise	18May18	18May18 A
Bid Opening	28May18	22Jun18 A
Contract Award	11Jun18	6Jul18 (A)
NTP Acknowledge	15Jun18	18 Jul18 (A)

	Contract Wille	estones	_
Activity/Milestones	Start	Finish	Solicitation Details
Set-up Staging Area	19Jul18 (A)	28Jul18	
Assemble & Install Pipelines	28Jul18	6Oct18	
Set up Dredges (2)	13Aug18	16Oct18	Bid: \$69,814,060 S&A: \$400K
General Debris Removal & Disposal	20Aug18	8Apr19	Cont: \$3,490,703 Total: \$73,704,763
Dredging	1Sep18	14Apr19	
Demobilize &Cleanup	14Apr19	03May19	

Issues: None at this time

Authorization: FEMA Mission Assignment SWD-30

History: Excessive debris from Hurricane Harvey is exacerbating and impeding the free flow of water down this portion of the West Fork of the San Jackho River. Heavy rainfell received over this water shod as well as down aframin flows into this portion of the river has created a situation that poses threads to life safety, critical infrastructure, as well as potential loss of tie. More than 16,000 homes and 3,300 business near Lake Houston were damaged by Harvey-vehaled flooding.

It to remove sediment and debris was awarded on Friday 6 July 2018 to Great Lakes Dradge and amount of 569.8 to 969. The Fre-Construction meeting was held on 18 July 2016, where the Notice NTP; was that and and acknowledged; starting the contract outsition of 27th days. Currently Great helf sub-contractor has started mobilisting.

Description: The work consists of the removal of shoal material within the West Fork of the San Jacinto river, from 169 to the confluence of Lake Houston. Dredging limits were determined by the H&H modeling

HAH

BUILDING STRONG

As of 24 July 2018 1700 CDT

Per a <u>USACE - Galveston District online update</u> on August 9, 2018: "a 150-ton crane towers sky ward as it moves a modular barge platform along the banks of the San Jacinto River last week. U.S Army Corps of Engineer contractors are busy constructing a staging area for the FEMA funded emergency dredging and debris removal along the West Fork of the San Jacinto River

near Kingwood, Texas. Last week, over 150 trucks begin moving in floating barges and 24 inch diameter High Density Polyethylene Pipes. Corps safety officials are asking the public to refrain from visiting the active construction site. The movement of large machinery and increase in vehicular traffic present safety concerns. Dredges will begin operations on September 1, 2018 and recreational boaters are asked to be aware of debris and dredge activity."

# TEA: More than 300 School Districts Eligible for Hurricane Harvey Displacement Funding



#### More than 300 districts eligible for Emergency Impact Aid

TEA has been awarded \$174 million in new federal assistance under the Temporary Emergency Impact Aid for Displaced Students program, to assist with the cost of educating students displaced by Hurricane Harvey during the 2017-2018 school year.

#### Read more

tea.texas.gov

# County Flood Control District Bond Election Underway Early Voting Through August 21

**Harris County Flood Control District** 

# BOND ELECTION

EARLY VOTING PERIOD
August 8-21

Early voting for the Harris County Flood Control District Bond Election began Wednesday, August 8, and continues through Tuesday, August 21. Forty-five locations will be available to Harris County registered voters during the twelve day early voting period which includes two weekends.

"This is the easiest type of election in which voters may participate because there is only one item on the ballot," said Harris County Clerk Stan Stanart, the chief election officer of the County. "Voters may view the proposed project list to make Harris County more resilient from flooding at <a href="https://www.hcfcd.org/bond-program/">https://www.hcfcd.org/bond-program/</a>."

Voters are strongly advised to review the detailed early voting schedule at <a href="https://www.HarrisVotes.com">www.HarrisVotes.com</a> before heading to a polling location to cast their ballot.

Currently, there are approximately 2.3 million registered voters in Harris County. Mail ballots have been sent to 68,000 voters who are eligible to vote by mail. A third, 23,000, of those voters have already returned their mail ballot to the election office.

"This is an important election. All voters are encouraged to participate," concluded Stanart. For more information about the early voting sites, hours of operation, to view a sample ballot, or review a list of acceptable forms of identification to vote at the polls, voters may visit <a href="https://www.HarrisVotes.com">www.HarrisVotes.com</a> or call the Harris County Clerk's office at 713.755.6965.

# **Updates from Austin**

#### TEA Releases A-F District Accountability Ratings

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) released the 2018 state accountability ratings for 1,200 school districts and district charters. Beginning this year, all **multi-campus school districts** and **charters** receive an accountability rating based on an A-F scale. School district ratings (including charter operators) by category include:

RATING	DISTRICT	CHARTER	TOTAL
A	121	32	153
В	334	22	356
C	232	15	247
D	46	11	57
F	9	7	16
TOTAL	742	87	829

The previous chart does not include A-F ratings for **single-campus school districts and charters**. Those districts are not labeled A-F and continue to receive one of three ratings: Met Standard, Met Alternative Standard or Improvement Required. School district ratings (including charter operators) by category include:

RATING	DISTRICT	CHARTER	TOTAL
Met Standard/ Alternative	198	56	254
Met Standard	198	47	245
Met Alternative Standard	0	9	9
Improvement Required	5	7	12
TOTAL	203	63	266

Ninety-two (92) school districts and district charters would have received a rating of B, C, D or F, but met at least one of the Hurricane Harvey criteria announced in June. As a result, those districts are labeled Not Rated: Harvey Provision. The Not Rated: Harvey Provision districts include: Aldine ISD; Alief ISD; Alvin ISD; Angleton ISD; Anahuac ISD; Aransas County ISD; Aransas Pass ISD; Arrow Academy (Houston); Austwell-Tivoli ISD; Beaumont ISD; Bloomington ISD; Boling ISD; Brazos School for Inquiry and Creativity (Houston); Brazosport ISD; Bridge City ISD; Buna ISD; Burkeville ISD; Calhoun County ISD; Channelview ISD; Cleveland ISD; Coldspring-Oakhurst CISD; Columbia-Brazoria ISD; Cypress-Fairbanks ISD; Danbury ISD; Dayton ISD; Deer Park ISD; Deweyville ISD; Dickinson ISD; Draw Academy (Houston); East Chambers ISD; El Campo ISD; Evadale ISD; Evolution Academy Charter School (Beaumont, Richardson, Spring); Fort Bend ISD; Galena Park ISD; Galveston ISD; Goose Creek CISD; Gregory-Portland ISD; Hamshire-Fannett ISD; Hardin-Jefferson ISD; Hitchcock ISD; Houston ISD; Huffman ISD; Hull-Daisetta ISD; Humble ISD; Ingleside ISD; International Leadership of Texas (Houston, Richmond); Kipp Inc. Charter (Houston); Kountze ISD; Kirby ville CISD; La Grange ISD; Lamar CISD; Liberty ISD; Little Cypress-Mauriceville CISD; Lumberton ISD; Nederland ISD; Odyssey Academy Inc. (El Lago, Galveston); Orangefield ISD; Palacios ISD; Pasadena ISD; Port Arthur ISD; Port Neches-Groves ISD; Promise Community School (Houston); Raul Yzaguirre School for Success (Houston); Refugio ISD; Rice CISD; Royal ISD; Runge ISD; Santa Fe ISD; Ser-Ninos Charter School (Houston); Sheldon ISD; Silsbee ISD; Spring Branch ISD; Spring ISD; Southwest School (Houston); Spurger ISD; Sweeny ISD; Taft ISD; Takoa Academy of Accelerated Studies (Orange, Port Arthur); Tarkington ISD; Texas Serenity Academy (Houston); Texas City ISD; The Pro-Vision Academy (Houston); The Rhodes School (Houston, Channelview); The Varnett Public Schools (Houston); Victoria ISD; Vidor ISD; West Hardin County CISD; West Orange-Cove CISD; Wharton ISD; Woodsboro ISD and Yes Prep Public Schools Inc. (Houston).

In addition, 13 districts received a *Not Rated* label for reasons other than Hurricane Harvey. A complete list of all *Not Rated* school districts and district charters can be found on the TEA website at <a href="http://tea.texas.gov/accountability/">http://tea.texas.gov/accountability/</a>.

Districts receive a grade or rating based on performance in three areas:

- Student Achievement measures what students know and can do by the end of the year. It includes results from state assessments across all subjects for all students, on both general and alternate assessments, College, Career, and Military Readiness (CCMR) indicators, like AP and ACT results, and graduation rates.
- School Progress measures how much better students are doing on the STAAR test this year versus last year, and how much better students are doing academically relative to schools with similar percentages of economically disadvantaged students.
- Closing the Gaps looks at performance among student groups, including various racial/ethnic groups, socioeconomic backgrounds and other factors.

Seventy percent of the accountability rating is based on the better of Student Achievement or Student Progress (whichever is better is the only performance measure counted in the calculations). The remaining 30 percent is based on performance in the Closing the Gaps area. To learn more about the A-Faccountability system, visit <a href="https://tea.texas.gov/A-F/">https://tea.texas.gov/A-F/</a>.

While district ratings are based on an A-F scale, the 2018 rating labels for individual campuses continued under the Met Standard, Met Alternative Standard or Improvement Required labels. The A-F rating labels will be applied to campuses at the end of the upcoming school year.

Districts, charters, and campuses can appeal the rating assigned on Aug. 15. TEA will release the final 2018 ratings based on the outcomes of the appeals in December. To view the 2018 state accountability ratings for districts, charters and campuses, visit the TEA website at <a href="http://tea.texas.gov/accountability/">http://tea.texas.gov/accountability/</a>.

## **TEA Releases Campus Accountability Ratings**

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) released the 2018 state accountability ratings for more than 8,700 campuses statewide. Campuses receive one of three ratings under the accountability system: *Met Standard, Met Alternative Standard,* or *Improvement Required*. **Campus ratings** in 2018 are as follows:

RATING	ISD CAMPUSES	CHARTERS	TOTAL	%
Met Standard/ Alternative	7,260	558	7,818	95.7
Met Standard	7,128	473	7,601	
Met Alternative Standard	132	85	217	
Improvement Required	293	56	349	4.3
TOTAL	7,553	614	8,167	100

Campus ratings in 2018 (including charter campuses) by category and school type are as follows:

RATING	ELEM	MIDDLE	HS	K-12	TOTAL
Met Standard/ Alternative	4,453	1,576	1,432	357	7,818
Met Standard	4,452	1,566	1,245	338	7,601
Met Alternative Standard	1	10	187	19	217
Improvement Required	207	71	57	14	349
TOTAL	4,660	1,647	1,489	371	8,167

Eighty-six (86) campuses would have received an Improvement Required rating but met at least one of the Hurricane Harvey criteria announced in June. As a result, those campuses are labeled Not Rated: Harvey Provision. For purposes of counting consecutive years of ratings, 2017 and 2019 will be considered consecutive for school districts, open-enrollment charter schools and campuses receiving a Not Rated label in 2018 due to hurricane-related issues.

In addition, 506 campuses received a Not Rated label for reasons other than Hurricane Harvey. A list of all Not Rated campuses can be found on the TEA website at http://tea.texas.gov/accountability/.

Note that while 2018 campus ratings continued under the Met Standard, Met Alternative Standard or Improvement Required labels, district ratings are based on an A-F scale. The A-F rating labels will be applied to campuses at the end of the upcoming school year.

### TEA: Search Districts & Campus Ratings at TXschools.org



#### TXschools.org - TEA School Finder

Use TXschools.org to see how well different schools and districts are doing. Each report provides an in-depth look into how campuses and districts are performing overall and in different areas.

Read more txschools.org

# Updates from HD 127

# Overcoming Dyslexia: Ryan J. Huberty Fund



If you meet Ryan Huberty today, he would tell you his story of when he was diagnosed with dyslexia in second grade. He struggled to read and he was frustrated in not being able to do something that his friends seemed to do so easily — read. His parents, Janet Huberty, and Dan Huberty, Texas State Representative, were his greatest advocates and never stopped helping him.

"It is estimated that up to 17% of the population may have dyslexia," Laura Dowdy, Assistant Director of Responsive Services at Humble ISD said. "Dyslexia is thought to be one of the most common language-based learning disabilities and the most common cause of reading, writing, and spelling difficulties."

To help facilitate learning for other Humble ISD students with dyslexia, the Huberty family has funded over \$5,000 through the Ryan J. Huberty Fund. "Our goal is to help educators teach children with reading disabilities to read," said Janet Huberty. "We want to help provide tools and resources to students and teachers through various projects and useful technology."

The Hubertys have done just that. This year, the family funded the purchase of C-pens for two elementary classrooms. This technology scans text and breaks words down using a digital voice. The device can read words or whole sentences, provide definitions and find synonyms for the words.

"Having C-Pens for our special education students to use in class will allow them to have the material read to them," Becky Hunt, a teacher at Park Lakes Elementary said. "This will give students the independence and normalcy they so desperately are seeking."

The grant will allow students to take these pens to their general education classroom, read independently with them and gain confidence. "This confidence would in turn motivate the student to learn, increasing the students progress in their academics as well as their self-confidence," said Hunt.

If you or any one you know has been affected by dyslexia, please consider donating to the Ryan J Huberty fund and help us fund more tools to help more students. Read this article at this link: http://www.humbleisdfoundation.org/protected/ArticleView.aspx?iid=6YBYB22&dasi=3P2Y.

If you would like to donate to the Ryan J. Huberty Fund, click here.

#### Humble ISD: Your Schools Newsletter



Humble ISD mails the Your Schools newsletter to district residents. Through Your Schools, you can learn how to enroll a child, when to attend orientation, where new schools are being built, tips for supporting your child's learning, information on special programs that enrich students learning, and more! Click the image above to view the newsletter in full.

#### 100 Years of Humble ISD - Centennial Celebration

Humble ISD is turning 100 years and we are kicking off the centennial accomplishment with a big celebration. We invite you to join us to the first event of this centennial celebration. Come and enjoy live music, food trucks and exhibits. It is a FREE FUN Family event.

When: August 25, 2018
Where: Humble Civic Center Expo & Arena
(8233 Will Clayton Parkway, Humble, TX 77338)
Who: Everyone is invited

Cost: Free



### **Constituent Resources**

#### Need Assistance?

Our office is always ready to assist you. Call or email us and we will do our best to help. Many State Agencies also have hotlines or citizen assistance offices to assist you. That contact information is available at this link, in alphabetical order:

http://www.lrl.texas.gov/genInfo/stateAgencies.cfm

# Live Updates

All of the relevant information our office has gathered during the week will be posted to our Facebook page. By "liking" us, you will stay up-to-date about important matters across the state that affect you and your family. Click below to find our page.



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